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May 4, 1993

EG&G ROCKY FLATS, INC.

James K. Hartman Transition & Environmental Restoration DOE, RFO

Attn: J. Pepe

TECHNICAL EVALUATION OF CADSWES PROPOSAL FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL DESIGN OF A DSS FOR MONITORING, ASSESSING, AND MANAGING THE WOMAN CREEK DRAINAGE BASIN - G H S - 208 - 93

The Surface Water Division (SWD) of Environmental Protection Management, and the Geosciences Division (GD) of Environmental Restoration Management, have reviewed a proposal submitted by Mr. Jeb Love of the Colorado Department of Health (CDH), entitled "Proposal for the High-Level Design of a Decision Support System (DSS) for Monitoring, Assessing, and Managing the Woman Creek Drainage Basin." The proposal was written by Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems (CADSWES), a computer system design group at the University of Colorado at Boulder. The proposal was reviewed by Mary Siders, Ralph Lindberg, and Barry Roberts of GD, and by Greg Wetherbee (SWD), (hereinafter referred to as the reviewers). After review and discussion of the proposal, the reviewers formulated the following questions and concerns for your consideration.

- There is considerable concern as to which fundamental questions the DSS will answer or help resolve. The proposal is not specific as to the level of detail involved in the DSS or how the system will help in making complex decisions about watershed management.
- 2. There may be commercially available software that could be used as a DSS for Rocky Flats Plant (RFP). Perhaps this is a project for the Information Resources Department.
- 3. The proposal indicates that CADSWES has constructed DSS systems in the past, but the proposed system would be tailored for RFP drainage basins. Resumes in the proposal suggest that the proposed project personnel are familiar with design of systems for large drainage basins such as the Colorado River Basin. Therefore, it is unclear whether the DSS concept is suitable for the relatively small RFP drainages. There is no indication that a DSS system has been successfully applied to drainages the size of Woman Creek.

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4. It is unclear how DOE,RFO could justify any expenditure in support of the project given the anticipated funding reductions for FY94 and overall Inter-Agency Agreement (IAG) priorities. The proposal indicates that significant input from "client" personnel would be required. Current SWD and GD personnel resources could not accommodate this need. Furthermore, the proposal is for preparation of a design document only; not the final computer model. Cost for construction of the computer model will probably far exceed the cost of the design document.

In light of the above concerns and questions, the reviewers of this proposal recommend that selected DOE,RFO and EG&G personnel attend a DSS demonstration to learn more about its capabilities. However, until the questions above are resolved, the reviewers can not support the expenditure of resources for implementation of this project.

Please contact Greg Wetherbee at extension 8685 if you have any questions about the comments and recommendations contained herein.

George H. Setlock, Director

Environmental Protection Management

EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.

GAW:sld

Orig. and 1 cc - J. K. Hartman